

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 01765 071606Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01 EB-07  
COME-00 TRSE-00 LAB-04 CU-02 /079 W  
-----088355 071608Z /43

O P 071534Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6093  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
DIA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USNMR SHAPE BEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1765

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC; USCINCEUR AND USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, CY, TU  
SUBJECT: "TFSC" CABINET CHANGES ANNOUNCED

REF: NICOSIA 1676 (250500Z JUN 77)

1. "TFSC PRIME MINISTER" KONUK ON JULY 7 ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING  
CHANGES IN HIS CABINET:  
PRIME MINISTER -- MR. NEJAT KONUK

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 01765 071606Z

MINISTERS:  
DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS -- VEDAT CHELIK  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS - ORHAN ZIHNI BILGEHAN  
WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS -- EROL KIAZIM ANDACH  
HEALTH -- DR. ALI ATUN  
LABOR AND SOCIAL INSURANCE -- MUSTAFA CHAGATAY  
RECONSTRUCTION, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION -- HAKKI ATUN

AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY -- IRSEN KUCHUK  
EDUCATION, TEACHING AND CULTURE -- DR. KENAN ATAKOL  
TRADE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM -- RECEP ALI GURLER  
FINANCE -- TANSEL FIKRI

ADDITIONALLY, CHELIK HAS DROPPED THE TITLE OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND HAS BEEN DESIGNATED "COORDINATOR" ON ECONOMIC ISSUES. BILGEHAN HAS SIMILARLY BEEN DESIGNATED "COORDINATOR", ON ISSUES RELATING TO NATIONAL UNITY PARTY AND THE PARTY GROUP IN THE "TFSC" ASSEMBLY.

2. COMMENT: (A) NEW CABINET CONTAINS NO SURPRISES AND AMOUNTS TO LITTLE MORE THAN A FILLING OF VACANT CABINET POSITIONS AND A SLIGHT REALIGNMENT OF PERSONALITIES IN THE TURKISH CYPRIOT INTERNAL POLITICAL EQUATION. CABINET CHANGES WILL HAVE NO DISCERNIBLE EFFECT ON INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS. ALL THE MINISTERS ARE DEPUTIES. EIGHT HAVE BEEN RETAINED FROM THE FORMER CABINET, SIX OF THEM IN THEIR FORMER MINISTRIES.

(B) DENKTASH'S DOMINANT POSITION HAS SUFFERED NOT AT ALL. KOTAK, THE FAMAGUSTA DEPUTY WHOSE CLIQUE HAD WORKED SO ARDUOUSLY TO PRECIPITATE THE CABINET RESHUFFLE, FAILED TO PARLAY HIS TROUBLE-MAKING CAPABILITY INTO A CABINET POST EITHER FOR HIMSELF OR FOR ONE OF HIS SUPPORTERS. ELIMINATION OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ROLE SUGGESTS A FRACTIONAL REDUCTION OF CHELIK'S POSITION. CHELIK AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NICOSI 01765 071606Z

BILGEHAN AS "COORDINATORS" AND AS THE TWO LEADING MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, SEE THEMSELVES AS PRIME MINISTERIAL CONTENDERS SHOULD KONUK DECIDE TO LEAVE THE SCENE, AND THERE WILL NO DOUBT BE CONTINUED COMPETITION AND BUREAUCRATIC CHAFING BETWEEN THE TWO.

(C) CABINET MAY HAVE BEEN marginally STRENGTHENED WITH APPOINTMENT OF TANSEL FIKRI, A RECENT IV GRANTEE AND A YOUNG BRITISH-TRAINED ECONOMIST WHO HAS BEEN SERVING AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TFSC ASSEMBLY'S DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, AS FINANCE MINISTER. HIS APPOINTMENT REINFORCES IMPRESSION THAT HIS MODERATE WELL-REGARDED AND ARTICULATE 31-YEAR OLD IS DESTINED TO PLAY A CONTINUING AND INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE IN TURKISH CYPRIOT POLITICS.

(D) TRANSFER OF ATAKOL FROM ENERGY TO EDUCATION APPEARS TO REFLECT RELATIVE DECLINE IN POLITICAL CLOUT, THOUGH ATAKOL REMAINS AN ATTRACTIVE, POPULAR, POLITICAL MODERATE. COMMERCE MINISTER GURLER IS A LAWYER AND DEPUTY WHO HAS NO PARTICULAR BACKGROUND IN TRADE AND WHO IS SAID TO HARBOR VAGUELY PAN-TURANIST IDEAS. RETENTION OF HAKKI ATUN IN RECONSTRUCTION, HOUSING AND REHABILITATION POST PROBABLY CONSTITUTES A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN HIS HANDLING

OF THE MUCH CRITICIZED LAND AND HOUSING REDISTRIBUTION  
PROGRAM DURING THE PAST YEAR. TRANSFER OF CHAGATAY FROM  
FINANCE TO LABOR AND SOCIAL INSURANCE REFLECTS GENERAL  
IMPRESSION THAT HE, A LAWYER WITH NO BUSINESS OR BANKING  
EXPERIENCE, WAS ILL-SUITED TO DEAL WITH THE COMMUNITY'S  
DIFFICULT FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.  
CRAWFORD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, CABINET, AMENDMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NICOSI01765  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770241-0671  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NICOSIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770783/aaaactwe.tel  
**Line Count:** 123  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 895ca66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 NICOSIA 1676  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1937863  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** \"TFSC\" CABINET CHANGES ANNOUNCED  
**TAGS:** PINT, CY, TU, (KONUK, NEJAT)  
**To:** STATE USEEC  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/895ca66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009